

TOBACCO

Broadleaf farmers in Connecticut and Massachusetts harvested 2,500 acres in 1999, an increase of 140 acres over the previous year's disease-reduced acreage, and the largest broadleaf acreage harvested in the Connecticut River Valley since 1959. Prolonged heat and humidity with little rainfall provided less than optimum growing conditions for the 1999 crop. Despite the severe lack of moisture, yields were not reduced as low as 1998 crop levels, where the fungus Blue Mold devastated entire fields. The drought conditions, combined with an aggressive spray program, significantly reduced the spread of the deadly fungus to the 1999 crop. Lack of a market for lower quality leaves with damage from drought or blue mold, limited 1999 broadleaf yields to 1,668 lbs/acre, above 1998's low yielding crop, but below the previous five-year average of 1,753 pounds per acre. Production harvested and sold in the two states weighed in at 4.2 million pounds, 15 percent above a year earlier, and the largest crop on record since 1959. Growers received an average of \$4.74 per

pound for broadleaf tobacco in 1999, with prices ranging from 10 cents to \$6.00 per pound depending on quality. Value of broadleaf production marketed was placed at \$19.7 million, 1 percent below the 1998 crop's value.

Shade tobacco production in Connecticut and Massachusetts totaled 3.6 million pounds in 1999, 49 percent above the previous year due to significant increases in both acreage and yield. Growers harvested 1,860 acres in 1999, the largest shade acreage harvested in the two states since 1981. Shade yields averaged 1,951 pounds per acre, 538 more pounds per acre than the previous year, and a record high for the Connecticut River Valley. To avoid disclosure due to a limited number of operations, value of production is no longer available for shade tobacco.

[Tobacco charts appear after oat statistics.]

TOBACCO: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value ^{1/}, 1990 - 1999

STATE & YEAR	Broadleaf Tobacco (Type 51)					Shade Tobacco (Type 61)					All Tobacco			
	Area Hvstd	Yield per Acre	Production ^{2/}	Price per Pound	Value of Production	Area Hvstd	Yield per Acre	Production	Price per Pound	Value of Production	Area Hvstd	Yield per Acre	Production	Value of Production
	Acres	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars	Acres	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars	Acres	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Dollars
Connecticut														
1990	570	1,700	969	2.50	2,423	1,250	1,630	2,038	21.00	42,798	1,820	1,652	3,007	45,221
1991	670	1,750	1,173	2.60	3,050	1,080	1,535	1,658	16.30	27,025	1,750	1,618	2,831	30,075
1992	650	1,790	1,164	2.80	3,259	720	1,520	1,094	17.00	18,598	1,370	1,648	2,258	21,857
1993	695	1,870	1,300	3.00	3,900	850	1,450	1,233	17.00	20,961	1,545	1,639	2,533	24,861
1994	745	1,890	1,408	3.05	4,294	910	1,400	1,274	--	--	1,655	1,621	2,682	--
1995	1,000	1,980	1,980	3.85	7,623	990	1,560	1,544	--	--	1,990	1,771	3,524	--
1996	1,220	1,840	2,245	6.20	13,919	1,040	1,490	1,550	--	--	2,260	1,679	3,795	--
1997	1,315	1,760	2,314	6.00	13,884	1,230	1,475	1,814	--	--	2,545	1,622	4,128	--
1998	1,435	1,600	2,296	5.40	12,398	1,380	1,435	1,980	--	--	2,815	1,519	4,276	--
1999	1,530	1,650	2,525	4.50	11,363	1,510	1,950	2,945	--	--	3,040	1,799	5,470	--
Massachusetts														
1990	90	2,120	191	2.50	478	380	1,615	614	21.00	12,894	470	1,713	805	13,372
1991	130	2,000	260	2.60	676	370	1,540	570	16.30	9,291	500	1,660	830	9,967
1992	170	1,880	320	2.80	896	300	1,400	420	17.00	7,140	470	1,574	740	8,036
1993	190	2,075	394	3.00	1,182	230	1,495	344	17.00	5,848	420	1,757	738	7,030
1994	210	1,905	400	3.10	1,240	280	1,400	392	--	--	490	1,616	792	--
1995	240	1,920	461	4.05	1,867	275	1,660	457	--	--	515	1,783	918	--
1996	410	1,600	656	6.55	4,297	390	1,425	556	--	--	800	1,515	1,212	--
1997	725	1,825	1,323	9.50	12,569	450	1,310	590	--	--	1,175	1,628	1,913	--
1998	925	1,445	1,337	5.67	7,581	340	1,325	451	--	--	1,265	1,413	1,788	--
1999	970	1,695	1,644	5.10	8,384	350	1,951	683	--	--	1,320	1,763	2,327	--
New England ^{3/}														
1990	660	1,758	1,160	2.50	2,901	1,630	1,627	2,652	21.00	55,692	2,290	1,665	3,812	58,593
1991	800	1,791	1,433	2.60	3,726	1,450	1,537	2,228	16.30	36,316	2,250	1,627	3,661	40,042
1992	820	1,810	1,484	2.80	4,155	1,020	1,484	1,514	17.00	25,738	1,840	1,629	2,998	29,893
1993	885	1,914	1,694	3.00	5,082	1,080	1,460	1,577	17.00	26,809	1,965	1,665	3,271	31,891
1994	955	1,893	1,808	3.06	5,534	1,190	1,400	1,666	--	--	2,145	1,620	3,474	--
1995	1,240	1,969	2,441	3.89	9,490	1,265	1,582	2,001	--	--	2,505	1,773	4,442	--
1996	1,630	1,780	2,901	6.28	18,216	1,430	1,473	2,106	--	--	3,060	1,636	5,007	--
1997	2,040	1,783	3,637	7.27	26,453	1,680	1,431	2,404	--	--	3,720	1,624	6,041	--
1998	2,360	1,539	3,633	5.50	19,979	1,720	1,413	2,431	--	--	4,080	1,486	6,064	--
1999	2,500	1,668	4,169	4.74	19,747	1,860	1,951	3,628	--	--	4,360	1,788	7,797	--

^{1/} Starting in 1994, CT and MA Shade type 61 price and value of production not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

^{2/} Any leaf that is not harvested, or harvested and destroyed for any reason, is excluded from production.

^{3/} New England includes CT, MA.